

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
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ROY S. HICKOK, JR., et al.)
)
Serial No: (Unassigned))
)
Filed: August 1, 2001)
)
For: TILT-UP SAFETY HOOD)
_____)

Art Unit:
Examiner:

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August 1, 2001

Date of Deposit

Richard H. Zaitlen

Name

Signature

8/1/01

Date

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examining the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendment the specification and drawings as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the last paragraph on page 3 with the following:

"A cradle-like attachment is known in the art that may support the hood in an open position. However, such a configuration is relatively unstable. Its cradle-like configuration does not prevent the user from knocking the hood off the tank while s/he is accessing the tank. A hood that the user will not be able to drop is desired."

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 7 with the following:

"The hinge that is described in the present invention is particularly safe and user-friendly. The pin around which the hinge pivots is relatively easy to insert into the slots formed by the hinge portions. Additionally, since it is larger at its second end, its natural tendency is to stay in the hinge. In one embodiment of the present invention, larger second end of the pin fits through the hinge due to a slot that is cut lengthwise in the pin. This slot allows for the compression of the pin as it is pushed through the hinge

portions, and expansion once the end of the pin has passed through the hinge portions. Additionally, since the hinge can be assembled prior to the attachment of the hood to the tank, the user does not have to fight the forces of gravity while trying to assemble the hood and tank combination. Instead, the user may assemble the hinge on any surface s/he desires and then clip it to the tank. This ready assembly facilitates and encourages use of the safety features of the present invention."

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 9 with the following:


"Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one embodiment of the present invention from a front angle when placed on a tank. The tank 11, which is a rectangular tank, has a top frame 16 and a bottom frame 17. The hood 10 is equipped with a power cord 19 to supply electricity as required. The hood 10 is also equipped with two hinge clips 18 that rotatably attach the hood 10 to the tank 11. The hood 11 pivots around the hinge clips 18. Each hinge clip 18 includes a clip pin 20 about which the individual portions of the hinge clip 18 rotate."

The foregoing amendments effect only minor changes and do not add any new matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 1, 2001

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APPENDIX

The last paragraph on page 3 was amended as follows:

A cradle-like attachment is known in the art that may support the hood in an open position. However, such a configuration is relatively unstable. Its cradle-like configuration does not prevent the user from knocking the hood off the tank while he s/he is accessing the tank. A hood that the user will not be able to drop is desired.

The first full paragraph on page 7 was amended as follows:

The hinge that is described in the present invention is particularly safe and user-friendly. The pin around which the hinge pivots is relatively easy to insert into the slots formed by the hinge portions. Additionally, since it is larger at its second end, its natural tendency is to stay in the hinge. In one embodiment of the present invention, larger second end of the pin fits through the hinge due to a slot that is cut lengthwise in the pin. This slot allows for the compression of the pin as it is pushed through the hinge portions, and expansion once the end of the pin has passed through the hinge portions. Additionally, since the hinge ~~is assembled~~ can be assembled prior to the attachment of the hood to the tank, the user does not have to fight the forces of gravity while trying to assemble the hood and tank combination. Instead, the user may assemble the hinge on any surface s/he desires and then clip it to the tank. This ready assembly facilitates and encourages use of the safety features of the present invention.

The second full paragraph on page 9 was amended as follows:

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one embodiment of the present invention from a front angle when placed on a tank. The tank 11, which is a rectangular tank, has a top

frame 16 and a bottom frame 17. The hood 10 is equipped with a power cord 19 to supply electricity as required. The hood 10 is also equipped with two hinge clips 18 that rotatably attach the hood 10 to the tank 11. The hood 11 pivots around the hinge clips 18 ~~when raised by the user into an open configuration. When raised to an open configuration, the hood will remain raised until the user lowers the hood to its original position. Such control allows the hood 10 to remain safely attached to the tank 11 while the user is accessing the tank 10.~~ Each hinge clip 18 includes a clip pin 20 about which the individual portions of the hinge clip 18 rotate.

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